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To: 'microsoft.atr(a)usdoj.gov'
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

The settlement proposal is unsatisfactory. I don't have time to point out the problems - I'm quite sure others have already done so.

I realize it's difficult to do anything more than slap them on the wrist and say "Bad giant megacorporation! Bad!" - but something else really needs to be done.

Our entire economy is going down the toilet. You could probably pay for a whole lot of sorely-needed public education out of Microsoft's nearly bottomless coffers. Nothing you can do to them will hurt them - they're like an oil company, only they don't have a non-renewable resource. They have software, which can be copied. Over, and over. And sold for \$100 a box. Takes a lot of oil to make \$100, and look at how powerful the oil companies are.

They won't learn from this. Hit them hard enough that they remember that they can't just hide behind a staff of well paid lawyers and continue to operate their "software mafia" without being much more careful.

(When was the last time they were looked over by the IRS..?)